Special stamps **Bicentenary of Geneva, Neuchâtel and Valais joining the Swiss Confederation**

Three bicentenaries in western and southern Switzerland

Special stamps **Europa – Old toys**

Children's toys from the good old days

Special stamp **75th anniversary of Swiss Sponsorship for Mountain Communities**

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2/2015

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Dear Reader

Although we are barely – or perhaps are already – a third of the way into this year, we already have a major event to look back on: a media conference to mark the 1500th anniversary of the founding of the Abbey of St Maurice took place on 5 February in the canton of Valais. You can read all about that in this issue, as well as about the associated special post office opened in September.

Three Swiss cantons are celebrating their bicentenaries this year: Geneva, Neuchâtel and Valais joined the Swiss Confederation 200 years ago – what better excuse for a major celebration?

One wonderful tale of aid-giving is the "Swiss Sponsorship for Mountain Communities". For 75 years now, this association has been dedicated to supporting mountain communities and narrowing the gap between the prosperous and the more disadvantaged regions of our country.

As in all odd-numbered years, the Venice Biennale once again looms large on the cultural calendar for 2015. The artist Pamela Rosenkranz has been chosen to exhibit at the Swiss pavilion. She has also designed a stamp to tie in with the exhibition, one which – quite literally – gets under your skin.

To round off our three-year Pro Patria series, we present four more village museums.

Children's toys of yesteryear feature on our Europa stamps. Yes, once upon a time there really was a world without smartphones, PlayStations and multimedia …

And, since it is well known that the way to the heart is through the stomach, we are pleased to present a unique cookbook to mark the EXPO Milano 15 stamp from issue 1: a veritable philatelic and culinary must-have in one!

Connecting people – everyone says they want to do it, but few succeed. One organization that has led the field in this for the last 150 years is the International Telecommunication Union based in Geneva.

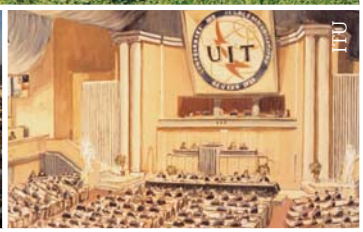
And last but not least, the 49th Aerophilately Days in Fehraltorf – an unmissable event for all philately aficionados.

I hope you enjoy reading all the articles in this issue.

Kind regards

Carina Ammon
Head of Communication
Stamps & Philately

Friendship: She looks at him trustingly, lets him stroke her but also shakes her head when she's had enough. For him it's a first friendship that shows him how two are needed who need to look after each other. Just like later in life too. Photo: Vanessa Püntener



This issue of Focus on Stamps highlights nostalgia (old toys), celebrations (bicentenary of joining the Swiss Confederation) and communication (150th anniversary of the International Telecommunication Union).

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2014 year set with all first-day covers in the set, the miniature sheet or the relevant single stamp.

Aerial photograph of the Abbey of Saint-Maurice. Photo: Filmic & Vision Air

When Maurice calls, they all come

A large number of media representatives made their way to the hallowed walls of the Abbey of St. Maurice.
They attended the highly informative press conference on this historic site's 1,500 years of continuous existence.
To mark the anniversary, Swiss Post has issued four special stamps (two sheetlets) with a value of CHF 1.00, while Swissmint presented the abbey with a special coin worth CHF 20.
Under the aegis of Bernard Reist, Canon Olivier Roduit talked about the abbey's own coins from an earlier age, Jean-Jacques Rey-Bellet talked about the abbey and its history, and Jean-Paul Duroux spoke about the anniversary year programme, whose festivities will continue until 22 September 2015.
Stefano De Martin, Head of the Valais Sales Region, at Post CH Ltd and Urs Liechti, Commercial Manager at Swissmint, provided some interesting background information about the stamps and the coin.

Behind the table (l-r): Jean-Jacques Rey-Bellet, Co-President of the organizing committee of the 1500th anniversary of the Abbey of St. Maurice, Canon Olivier Roduit, librarian and archivist, Vice-President of the organizing committee of the 1500th anniversary of the Abbey, Stefano De Martin, Post CH Ltd, Urs Liechti, Swissmint

The 20-franc commemorative silver coin. It has already sold out at Swissmint.

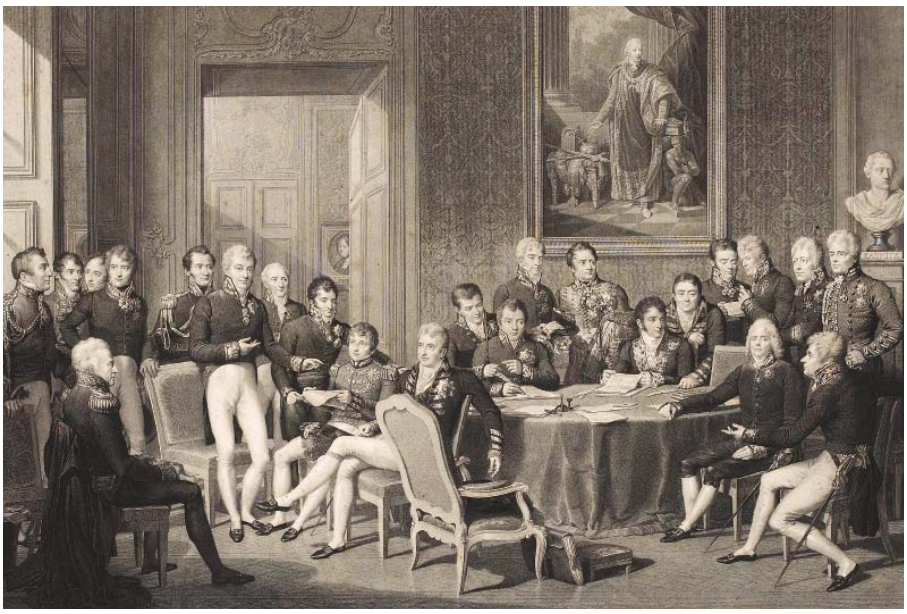
St. Maurice special post office

Date: Tuesday, 22 September 2015
Time: 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Venue: 1890 St. Maurice (VS)
Occasion: Marché Monastique (monastic market)

An autograph session with the designer of the special stamps, Christian Stuker from Cully, will take place at the special post office from 1.30 – 3 p.m.

Links to further information:
post.ch/briefmarken > Agenda; klostermarkt.ch

The three **second-youngest cantons** mark a major milestone



The Congress of Vienna, held between 18 September 1814 and 9 June 1815, redefined numerous European borders and created new states. Among other things, the internal and external borders of Switzerland and its cantons were recognized, and Valais, the Principality of Neuchâtel (Hohenzollern) and Geneva were accepted as new cantons. Contemporary etching by Jean Godefroy after a painting by Jean-Baptiste Isabey. Source: German Wikipedia page

When it comes to celebrating, the Swiss are no longer divided by the so-called "roesti ditch" between German- and French-speaking Switzerland. All it takes to fire them up is the rallying cry "We desire to be a people, united as brothers!", as the founding fathers of the Confederation swore on the Rütli meadow back in 1291. And even if they often disagree in national referenda, when it comes to their homeland, the Swiss are not narrow federalists. We are therefore all proud of Geneva – lying on the beautiful shores of the eponymous lake – and prize its cosmopolitan flair. And of Neuchâtel too, which commemorated its 1000th anniversary back in 2010 and which is well known beyond its borders as the birthplace of the "Green Fairy", as absinthe is popularly known here. And, last but not least, of Valais, the sunniest region in Switzerland, home to the world-famous Matterhorn – which we all like to call our own. Read on for three brief dips into 200 years of Swiss history.

Special stamps **Bicentenary of Geneva, Neuchâtel and Valais joining the Swiss Confederation**

Sales
Philately: From 30.4.2015 to 30.6.2016, while stocks last
Post offices: From 7.5.2015, while stocks last

Validity
Unlimited from 7.5.2015

Printing
Offset, 4-colour, with perforation;
Cartor Security Printing, La Loupe, France

Sizes
Stamps: 33×28 mm
Sheetlet: 192×95 mm (2 rows of 3 stamps)

Paper
White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²

Perforation
13¼:13½

Design
Tessa Gerster, Lausanne

SUISSE
Ch. Duvoisenay
Bicentenaire de l'entrée des cantons de Genève, Neuchâtel et du Valais dans la Confédération suisse

First-day cover motif

First-day cancellation

Geneva – cosmopolitan city at Switzerland's southwestern tip

On 19 May 2015, Geneva will be celebrating the bicentenary of joining the Swiss Confederation.

The canton of Geneva, the city of Geneva, and the Association of Geneva Municipalities joined forces to set up GE200.ch. In collaboration with a number of partners, the latter has put together a programme of historical and cultural events and festivals to (re)acquaint people from near and far with Geneva's history.

The traditional commemoration held on 30 and 31 December 2013 marked the official start of the celebrations which will extend over 17 months. The milestones will be four key historical dates that paved the way for Geneva's admission to the Confederation: 31 December 1813, 1 June 1814, 12 September 1814 and 19 May 1815.

A number of events took place throughout 2014, including many folk festivals and pageants. The public can still take part in numerous commemorative projects up until 19 May 2015, for example by visiting the interactive cartographic portal "Genève à la carte", or playing the "Genève 1815" videogame on the GE200.ch website which displays Geneva's history in an entertaining way.

Along with various exhibitions, cultural and musical events will dominate the programme for 2015, culminating with a classical music concert as the grand finale on 19 May. At the beginning of May, Amarr@ge, a pontoon enclosing three pools arranged in the shape of a Swiss cross will open for its second and last summer season. The pontoon is fixed to a bridge in the city centre and symbolizes the anchoring of Switzerland in the heart of Geneva.

Patricia Crousaz Pantet,
Project Manager,
Republic and Canton of Geneva

Discover the full programme of festivities at **GE200.ch**

Photo: iStockphoto

Neuchâtel – cradle of culinary delights in western Switzerland

The canton of Neuchâtel traditionally commemorates its admission to the Confederation on 12 September, the day in 1814 on which the Federal Diet decided to admit the cantons of Geneva, Valais and Neuchâtel to the Confederation. The celebrations have therefore already taken place in Neuchâtel.

The programme for the bicentenary in 2014 was wide ranging, with 20 projects being run between 1 March and 14 September. However the main celebrations marking the occasion were held over the historic weekend of 12 September. People were able to see, hear and enjoy all sorts of happenings – artistic, musical, film and sporting performances, along with culinary specialities, not to mention the spectacular fireworks concert held simultaneously in Cernier and Môtiers. The bicentenary celebrations will also leave an abiding legacy: two educational trails, a commemorative medal and a book will serve as lasting reminders. Representatives of the federal and cantonal authorities assembled in Berne for an official reception organized by the three cantons concerned, demonstrating most fittingly the close affinity of the canton of Neuchâtel with Switzerland.

Dominique Guyot
Head of the Bicentenary Project,
Republic and Canton of Neuchâtel

View of the picturesque "Saut de Brot" stone arch bridge in the Gorges de l'Areuse between Boudry and Noiraigue. Photo: Keystone/Armin Mathis

Valais – tourist magnet in Switzerland's sunny south

The celebrations to mark the bicentenary of the canton of Valais officially kicked off on 1 January 2015. Over 30 projects around the five main themes of history, discoveries, culture, innovation and sport will be run during the bicentenary year and will illustrate the various facets of the canton. Communication and emotions will be writ large in Valais during 2015. A further five extraordinary events are also linked to the bicentenary celebrations: the 1500th anniversary of the Abbey of St Maurice, the 150th anniversary of the first ascent of the Matterhorn, participation in the Milan World Fair, the Swiss Marksmen's Festival and the swearing-in of the Pontifical Swiss Guard in Rome. The high point will be the official celebrations on 7 and 8 August 2015 in Sion. To round off the programme – to which the canton of Valais warmly invites its citizens and all of Switzerland – Swiss Post will be issuing a special stamp for each of these three cantons. On 7 May, the official issue date, the Sion Philatelic Society is organizing an event at which the three bicentennial cantons can share their celebrations with the rest of Switzerland.

Romy Gay-des-Combes
Project Manger Valais/Wallis 2015,
Canton of Valais

For further information on the bicentenary please visit **valais.ch/2015**

Photo: iStockphoto

Solidarity from the valleys to the peaks

Financial support for the mountain regions

Building sites on inaccessible terrain, such as here in Ticino's Maggia Valley, often require assistance from the air.

The notion of solidarity between mountain and valley has been paramount for 75 years, with funds being channelled into narrowing the gap between the more prosperous and economically disadvantaged areas of Switzerland. As a result, the mountain regions will continue to be cultivated, inhabited and preserved. In 1940 it was this feeling of solidarity between "mountain and valley" that led to the foundation of the "Schweizer Patenschaft für Berggemeinden" (Swiss Sponsorship for Mountain Communities) and has been the touchstone for its activities ever since.

Avalanche in Unterschächen in the canton of Uri.

Repairing dry stone walls in Visperterminen, Valais.

Children in the mountain village of Bürglen, Uri are delighted with their new playground.

The association's primary objective is to enable mountain regions to be preserved, thrive economically and remain habitable. It does this by providing project-based aid to less affluent communities, cooperatives and corporations.

Thanks to the generous solidarity of the Swiss people, applications from mountain communities can be supported on an ongoing basis. Examples include infrastructure projects (e.g. water, wastewater and power supply systems), alpine conservation measures (e.g. alpine buildings, land improvement), defences against natural hazards (e.g. tree planting, avalanche and stream channels, forest management), clean-up and reconstruction work after natural disasters, as well as projects aimed at educating the younger generation (e.g. kindergarten and school buildings).

The association brings together cash-strapped mountain organizations with more affluent lowland municipalities and donors. It also provides direct project-based aid itself from the monies it raises from legacies and its annual fund-raising campaign. Every year the association processes around 400 applications received from communities and public bodies. On the basis of a questionnaire, project and finance documentation, the history of the locality etc., an objective picture of the financial situation of the applicant, the available subsidies and the merits of the case for assistance are determined in close consultation with the relevant cantons, municipalities and other organizations that share the same goals. The projects envisaged are evaluated on site by the Board's specialists and independent experts. Decisions on whether or not to offer assistance are only reached once all the important supporting documentation has been collated.

Barbla Graf, Managing Director
Swiss Sponsorship for Mountain Communities

Further information: **berggemeinden.ch**

Swiss Sponsorship for Mountain Communities aims to ensure our beautiful countryside will be preserved for future generations too. Photo: Toggenburg Tourism SG

Facts & figures

Founded: 1940

Mission: To narrow the gap between prosperous and economically disadvantaged regions of Switzerland.

Projects supported: Around 400 a year in various fields:
– Infrastructure
– Alpine conservation
– Defences against natural hazards
– Cleaning up and reconstruction after natural disasters
– Educating the younger generation

Donors: Cantons, cities, municipalities, companies, foundations, associations, institutions as well as around 130,000 private benefactors

Board: President – former member of Federal Council Hans-Rudolf Merz, Vice-President – former member of Council of States Hermann Bürgi, 14 board members, four experts. Total of around 10,000 hours of unpaid work per year.

Office: Managing Director Barbla Graf, nine staff (amounting to 6.4 full-time positions)

Donations: Approx. 20 million Swiss francs (2014)

Administrative costs: Approx. 5 percent

Special stamps **75th anniversary of Swiss Sponsorship for Mountain Communities**

Sales
Philately: From 30.4.2015 to 30.6.2016, while stocks last
Post offices: From 7.5.2015, while stocks last

Validity
Unlimited from 7.5.2015

Printing
Offset printing, 4-colour, Gutenberg AG, Schaan, Liechtenstein

Sizes
Stamps: 33×28 mm
Sheetlet: 195×142 mm (4 rows of 5 stamps)

Paper
White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²

Perforation
13¼:13½

Design
Theresia Nuber, Zurich

First-day cover motif

First-day cancellation

Getting **under your skin …**

Functionally speaking, the skin is the most versatile organ in a human or animal body. Serving as an interface between the internal and external, it protects our bodies from the environment, presents our "face" to the world, and preserves our inner equilibrium. As well as providing a variety of adaptive mechanisms, the skin also plays an important role in our metabolism and in immunology. The Swiss artist Pamela Rosenkranz is to present an exhibition around this theme at the Swiss pavilion at the Venice Biennale and has also designed this year's stamp (a feature of the event since 2010).

Pamela Rosenkranz
Photo: Anon Amphorn

Pamela Rosenkranz was born in 1979 in the canton of Uri. After graduating from the Academy of Fine Arts in Berne she completed a residency at the Rijksakademie in Amsterdam. These days she calls Zurich home, but is constantly on the move. The list of places where the artist has exhibited is truly international: in 2014 alone, her works were on show in Vienna, Bremen, Oslo, London, Turin, Taipei, Marrakesh, New York, Los Angeles, Zurich and Gstaad, while in the 2013 Venice Biennale she was represented in the main exhibition curated by Massimiliano Gioni.

Rosenkranz's conceptual work is inspired by the digitally influenced thinking of her generation. Her work encompasses a wide range of references from history, politics and philosophy through to technology, medicine and pop culture. She dissects the meaning of "human" and through abstract sculptures, paperworks, videos and installations she translates complex issues into engaging symbolism. Rosenkranz employs a range of known objects and images such as plastic bottles, soft drinks, the colour palettes of global companies, JPEGs of International Yves Klein Blue, and ASICS sneakers. Scenes are suffused with silicone and acrylic paint in various flesh tones. In her work, Rosenkranz questions the human body and our obsession, fuelled by omnipresent advertising, with shaping and constantly improving it. Consumerism, sports worship, the desire for eternal youth, beauty ideals, identity and role models are recurring themes in Pamela Rosenkranz's exhibitions.

With surprising allusions to these motifs, Rosenkranz creates new associations that allow us to see hitherto unnoticed interrelationships while at the same time alienating us profoundly. The idiosyncratic tension in her work and the sharp eye Pamela Rosenkranz brings to bear on our current of modes of thinking and knowledge systems ensure viewers will always keenly await her next projects.

For her exhibition in the Swiss pavilion, Pamela Rosenkranz is working with the curator Susanne Pfeffer, the current Director of the Fridericianum in Kassel, Germany. The stamp she has designed for Swiss Post is closely linked to the exhibition in the Swiss pavilion, for which Pamela Rosenkranz uses a specially developed "skin tone". A tactile structure makes this stamp feel like human skin, adding a sensory dimension to our visual appreciation.

Swiss Arts Council
Pro Helvetia

Special stamp **56th International Art Exhibition – la Biennale di Venezia**

Sales
Philately: From 30.4.2015 to 30.6.2016, while stocks last
Post offices: From 7.5.2015, while stocks last

Validity
Unlimited from 7.5.2015

Printing
Offset, 2-colour, Pantone; Cartor Security Printing, La Loupe, France

Sizes
Stamps: 33×28 mm
Sheetlet: 192×95 mm (2 rows of 5 stamps)

Paper
White stamp paper with optical brightener, flock print, matt gummed, 110 gm²

Perforation
13¼:13½

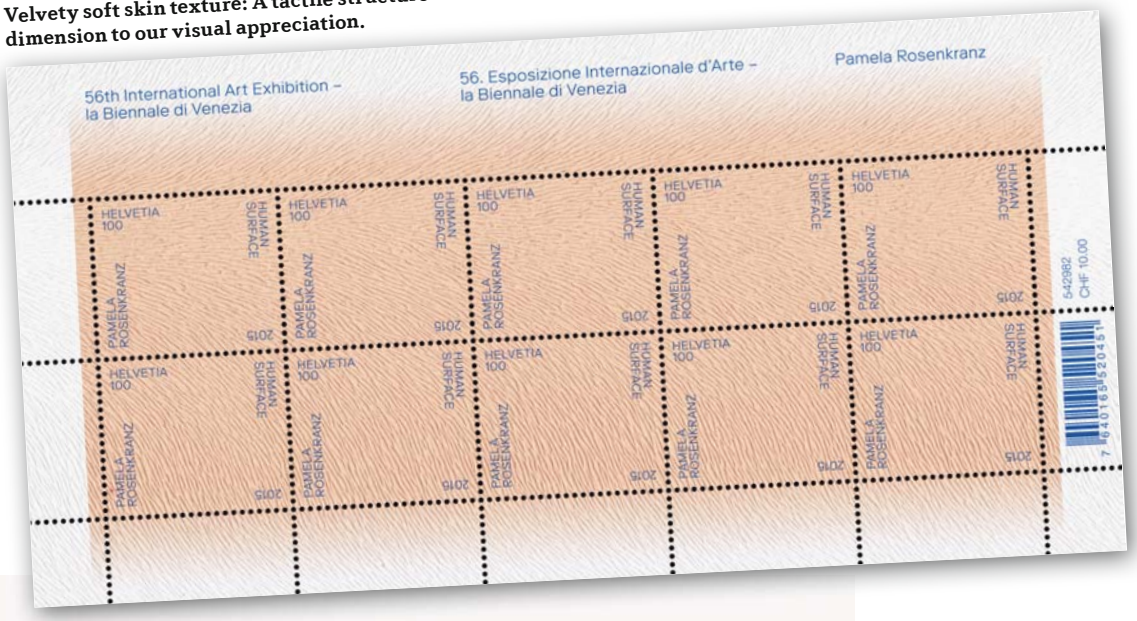
Design
Pamela Rosenkranz, Zurich

56th International Art Exhibition – la Biennale di Venezia
56. Esposizione Internazionale d'Arte – la Biennale di Venezia

First-day cover motif

First-day cancellation

Velvety soft skin texture: A tactile structure makes this stamp feel like human skin, adding a sensory dimension to our visual appreciation.



***Inner Nature (Worldface Red)*, 2012. Blood, inkjet print on photo paper. 80 × 56 inches (205 × 144 cm)**
Photo: Gunnar Meier. Courtesy of the artist and Miguel Abreu Gallery, New York

The Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia and the Venice Biennale

The Venice Biennale is one of the world's foremost showcases for contemporary art. Switzerland has its own exhibition pavilion in Venice's "Giardini pubblici" (public gardens), built by Bruno Giacometti in the early 1950s. The Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia is responsible for Switzerland's exhibits in Venice. A seven-strong independent panel of experts is tasked with choosing the artist to represent Switzerland. Alongside the main event, Pro Helvetia additionally runs a discussion-stimulating "Salon Suisse" which offers further insights into the artists and themes of the Biennale. This is held in the Palazzo Trevisan, situated in Venice's old Dorsoduro district, which in the evenings acts as a meeting place for visitors to the Biennale. This year's Salon Suisse will be curated by Dada specialists Juri Steiner and Stefan Zweifel, focusing on the epoch-spanning Dionysian force that Dada tapped into. The 56th Biennale will run from 9 May to 22 November 2015.
For more information see: biennials.ch

Promoting culture
with Pro Patria stamps

Special stamps with surcharge
Pro Patria – Village museums

Sales
Philately: From 30.4.2015 to 31.12.2015, while stocks last
Post offices: From 7.5.2015, while stocks last

Validity
Unlimited from 7.5.2015

Printing
Offset, 4-colour; Joh. Enschedé, Haarlem, Netherlands

Sizes
Stamps: 33×28 mm
Sheetlet: 195×142 mm (4 rows of 5 stamps)

Paper
White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²

Perforation
13¾:14¼

Design
Vito Noto, Lugano

First-day cover motif

First-day cancellation

Even in this digital age, exclusive franked letters are highly desirable because these miniature works of art both surprise recipients and arouse their curiosity. But Pro Patria stamps not only spread enjoyment, they also support the cultural life of our country. The proceeds from the surcharge are paid into a fund dedicated to supporting selected projects.

The Pro Patria stamps for 2015 depict objects from the collections of museums in the cantons of Appenzell Innerrhoden, Berne, Thurgau and Vaud. This year's four stamps complete a three-year, twelve-part set of special stamps devoted to museums. The "Swiss local and regional museums" campaign launched in 2013 aimed to specifically promote the communication of history also in small and medium-sized museums. Once the collection is complete, over a million Swiss francs will have been raised. Pro Patria's partner for the project is the Swiss Museums Association (Verband der Museen der Schweiz, VMS). Over 80 applications have already been submitted and 50 grants awarded.
The cantonal project lists on the website bear testimony to the large number of cultural projects that Pro Patria stamps have helped support over the past decades, especially in the field of heritage conservation.

Roman G. Schönauer, General Secretary
Swiss Pro Patria Foundation

Further information: **propatria.ch**

Photos: Aigle Castle

Barrels like this were used during the grape harvest, Vine and Wine Museum, Aigle

Artefacts for wine lovers

Aigle Castle is home to the Vine and Wine Museum which was founded in 1971 with aim of preserving Vaudois winemaking heritage. It boasts an extensive collection of objects relating to wine and viticulture,
including the barrel depicted on the new stamp. This was used during the grape harvest. People carried such barrels containing the picked grapes on their backs from the vineyard to the cart on which the grapes were taken to the wine press.
The Vine and Wine Museum, which was renovated in 2010 and 2013, starts from the techniques and processes currently used for making wines in the region and places them in a historical and geographical context. There are five permanent exhibitions, all with an emphasis on interactivity. As well as the work of the winemaker in the vineyard and the wine cellar, the collections also touch on the themes of landscape, biodiversity, educating the palate, the economics of wine, ecology, art and festivals.
Experiences, sensory encounters, audiovisual exhibits, discoveries … a visit to the museum offers an entertaining introduction to the world of wine in the charming surroundings of Aigle Castle.

Nicolas Isoz, Curator,
Vine and Wine Museum, Aigle Castle

Vine and Wine Museum, Aigle Castle, chateauaigle.ch

Stamp booklet
A booklet with the current Pro Patria special stamps contains ten mixed stamps: six stamps featuring the barrel motif (CHF 0.85 + 0.40) and four stamps featuring the disc brooch (CHF 1.00 + 0.50).
The booklet can be purchased for CHF 14.50 (incl. CHF 1.00 for the envelope) from the Swiss Pro Patria Foundation, Clausiusstrasse 45, 8006 Zurich, in the Postshop (postshop.ch) and at Swiss Post stamp counters.

Photos: Appenzell Museum

Tobacco pouch with traditional brass embellishments, Appenzell Museum

Smoking in style

This tobacco pouch, known as a "Backseckl" in the Innerrhoden dialect, shows that the paraphernalia required for smoking was also an important element of Appenzell folk culture. For once, however, the focus is not on the "Lindauerli", the famous Appenzell pipe with silver ornaments. In the latter half of the 18th century, Appenzell saddlers began to apply chased brass ornamentation to leather goods. They did this on cow and goat bell collars, bridles for bulls, packhorse harnesses and dog collars. The earliest named alpine saddler, Johann Anton Fässler (1772–1850), first applied brass studs to braces around 1800; the first brass-studded tobacco pouches date from 1860.

The pouch depicted was produced in 2001 by local saddler Adalbert Fässler after a traditional design. Adalbert is now the sixth generation of the Fässler family to practice the leatherworker's craft. He uses thick sheets of brass to make his figures and ornaments, which lend the cows and herdsmen an archaic quality. Incidentally, the braided brass pipe reamer is used to clean the tobacco pipe. Unlike smoking, it is not actually as dangerous as it looks.

Roland Inauen
Deputy Chairman of the Governing Council, Appenzell Innerrhoden

Appenzell Museum, Hauptgasse 4, Appenzell, ai.ch

Fotos: Museum of the Countryside, Saanen

Disc brooch with glass and filigree ornamentation, Frauenfeld

Merovingian jewel

At the beginning of the 20th century, a certain J. Traber made an extraordinary discovery during the construction of a house in the Chilestigli precinct of Steckborn: a large disc brooch, 6.5 cm in diameter, decorated with gold filigree work and several stone and glass inlays. Originally a large gemstone would have sparkled in the middle, as can be seen in comparable finds. Women used such brooches to fasten their cloaks in the 7th century. We know this from examining the remains of textiles attached to the objects as well as from contemporary accounts.

The exquisite Steckborn piece probably came from an early medieval grave, but no further information is known. It was not until 1958 that the Steckborn-Chilestigli burial ground near the site of the find was archaeologically investigated.

Disc brooches with filigree ornamentation were among the most complex and sophisticated pieces of jewellery produced during the Merovingian period and are testament to the skilled craftsmanship and artistry of the goldsmiths of the time. Each piece is unique. The Chilestigli brooch can be admired in the Turmhof Museum in Steckborn.

Dr. habil. Urs Leuzinger
Director Frauenfeld Museum for Archaeology

Photos: Museum for Archaeology, Frauenfeld

Museum for Archaeology, Freiestrasse 24, Frauenfeld, archaeologie.ch

18th century carved butter board, Saanen Museum of the Countryside

Artfully crafted

Since time immemorial, chiefly local skilled craftsmen have fabricated the accoutrements of rural daily life: chests, boxes, milk pails, butter boards and moulds, often richly decorated with carvings. The imagination knew no bounds – cows, horses, goats, alpine herdsmen and their dogs, later often gentian and edelweiss, as well as the initials of the owner and the year. Particularly decorative elements are rosettes, hearts, stars, lozenges, stylized tulips and leaves.

The butter board shown here is from the Berchten Collection in the Saanen Museum of the Countryside. It was made in the middle of the 18th century and measures 22.5 × 21.5 cm. A symmetrical endless design with four interlocking hearts is contained within a simple circle of lines, and the handle has a heart-shaped hole.

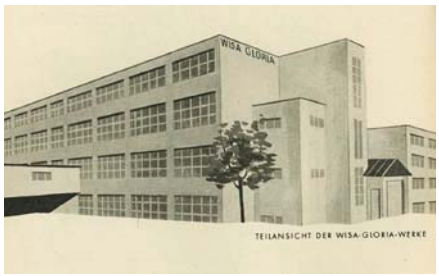
Stephan Jaggi, President Saanen Local History Museum

Saanen Museum of the Countryside, Dorfplatz, Saanen, museum-saanen.ch

Nostalgic fun and games from Switzerland

As a country, Switzerland was never really one of the major producers of children's toys. Nevertheless, there were a large number of small and medium-sized manufacturers here who made high-quality products, often of remarkable originality. Thanks to a thriving retail market which was protected from foreign competition during the two world wars, some small firms were able to expand quite significantly.

WISA GLORIA, CRÉATION 1929
Wisa-Gloria, Nº 424
Très belle voiture, ressorts verticaux, caisse avec baguette et décor en relief, coussins à ressorts, frein à pied, dernière nouveauté, fr. 150
Wisa-Gloria, Nº 420
Le triomphe de la „Saffa", large caisse bombée, 2 teintes, voiture très élégante, frein à pied, coussins à ressorts, article très soigné, dernière nouveauté, fr. 155
Nous accordons des facilités de paiement sans aucune majoration



Already back in 1914, the firm of Wisa-Gloria Werke based in Lenzburg, formed from the merger of the two oldest Swiss children's pram factories, was awarded a golden medal for its high-quality products at the national exhibition. In the years after World War I, it experienced a significant upsurge in demand and sales trebled within a very short period of time. The actual economic miracle years following World War II were the toy industry's golden years. Thanks to its acquisition of several competitors, Wisa-Gloria emerged as the clear market leader. In 1957 the company also purchased the Helvetia pram factory in Murgenthal. The factory premises in Lenzburg had to be continually expanded. Owing to import bans, the domestic industry did not have to worry about foreign competition until 1960.

The products made by the individual manufacturers were very similar. Visually, there was very little difference between the tricycles with pressed metal frames

"Helvetia" tricycle, red, 1949, unrestored
This tricycle was made by the firm of Helvetia, Murgenthal, which was taken over by the Lenzburg Wisa-Gloria Werken in 1957.

Images: Articles from Wisa-Gloria catalogues from 1929 to 1966.
Source: wisa-gloria.ch

Wisa-Gloria rocking duck, yellow, 1957, unrestored
As well as the famous red rocking snail, there was also a similar-style rocking swan and this rare rocking duck from Lenzburg.

Special stamps
Europa – Old toys

Sales
Philately: From 30.4.2015 to 30.6.2016, while stocks last
Post offices: From 7.5.2015, while stocks last

Validity
Unlimited from 7.5.2015

Printing
Offset printing, 4-colour, Gutenberg AG, Schaan, Liechtenstein

Sizes
Stamps: 40×32.5 mm
Sheetlet: 190×162 mm (4 rows of 4 stamps)
2 motifs on one sheet

Paper
White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²

Perforation
13½

Photography
Anja Schori, Zurich

Graphics editing:
Manuela Weisskopf, Berne

First-day cover motif

First-day cancellation

made by Helvetia, Kemp and Wisa-Gloria, but they were constructed differently. Between 1957 and 1961, wooden toys such as the rocking duck depicted here were contracted out to various joineries in the vicinity. As a result, every series was a little bit different.

Later, mass-produced projects from Germany, Italy and France came onto the market. This competition led to a battle for survival on the Swiss domestic market. The firms missed the boat at the beginning of the plastic era, and retailers turning to international procurement groups led to the demise of the toy industry. 1975 saw large-scale redundancies, short-time working or even complete factory closures at all the firms. The surviving firms sought to stave off their demise by importing toys from far-off countries or by moving production to cheaper locations. For years, Wisa-Gloria's table football sets were made in the Lenzburg prison joinery workshop. In 1992 manufacturing operations at the Lenzburg headquarters ceased altogether. Today, these wonderful old toys of yesteryear are finding their way back to their birthplace in Lenzburg. In the "Wisa-Gloria Clinic", a commercial business within Lenzburg prison, they are expertly restored so they can then take their place as highly sought-after collector's items in private homes or toy museums. They continue to win over children's hearts everywhere.

Bernhard Taeschler
Prison Administrator, JVA Lenzburg

The stamp marking Expo Milano 2015

Delectable and exclusively packaged **in a cookbook**

only CHF 19.–

Expo Milano 2015 – Swiss cuisine

Exclusive book with recipes and culinary background information on seven regions of Switzerland, around 100 pages. Contains one sheet with six original Expo Milano 2015 stamps with a total value of CHF 6.00.
With a foreword by Federal Councillor Didier Burkhalter.
Hardback book in four languages: It, Ge, Fr, En

The stamp and the book will also be on sale in the Swiss pavilion at Expo Milano 2015 (while stocks last).

Expo Milano 2015 is taking place between 1 May and 31 October. To mark Milan's World Fair, Swiss Post is issuing two product highlights designed by Berne graphic artists Daniel Dreier and Nadine Wüthrich: the shimmering special stamp with an issue date of 5 March 2015 (already previously presented in Focus on stamps 1/15), together with an equally attractive book dedicated entirely to food, in keeping with the fair's theme of "Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life". In the book the four Gotthard cantons (Graubünden, Ticino, Uri, Valais) plus the three cities (Basel, Geneva, Zurich) also represented at the Expo all present typical recipes from their region. If, for example, you would like to know how to wrap delicious "Bündner Capuns" in chard leaves, or prepare crispy Ticino polenta with "Ossobuco", the instructions for creating these delectable dishes are beautifully presented in words and pictures. Martin Weiss, the well-known author of the "Urchuchi" series of books, compiled the recipes and added interesting information about their cultural and historical background. For instance, we learn that in the past, girls from Basel were only permitted to marry once they could make a flour soup without lumps. Or that the famous "Café de Paris" butter-based sauce was invented in Geneva.

The special stamp and book will be of interest to everyone who enjoys philatelic treats as much as cooking and eating. An ideal gift!

Martin Weiss

Further information:
www.padiglionesvizzero.ch
www.urchuchi.ch

Connecting people – around the world

Already since 1865, i.e. for one hundred and fifty years, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has been at the centre of all developments in communications technology. Its history stretches from the era of the telegraph through to the modern world of satellites, mobile phones and the Internet. Throughout its lifetime, the ITU has always focused on fostering international cooperation between governments, private companies and other stakeholders. It continues to ensure that new developments in telecommunications and IT can be implemented as quickly and easily as possible for the ultimate benefit of all.

In the mid-19th century, telegraph wires did not extend across national frontiers because each country used different systems. Messages had to be decoded at the border, then translated and adapted before they could be retransmitted over the telegraph network of a neighbouring country. It therefore comes as no surprise that a number of countries sought to reach an agreement on interconnecting their individual networks.

On 17 May 1865, after two and a half months of laborious negotiations, the first International Telegraph Convention was signed in Paris by its 20 founding members (including Switzerland), and the International Telegraph Union – the forerunner of the ITU – was born. This first international convention created a framework for establishing a standard for telegraphy, standardized operating instructions and common international tariff and billing rules.

One invention then followed another in quick succession: telephones, wireless telegraphy, radio broadcasting, satellites, television, computer networks, Internet, e-mails, the World Wide Web, mobile phones, cellular networks, broadband, intelligent networks etc. With each new development, the ITU has worked tirelessly behind the scenes, developing new standards, allocating frequencies and satellite orbits, negotiating global agreements and drafting international regulations, in order to create a seamlessly interconnected worldwide communications system that is stable and reliable.

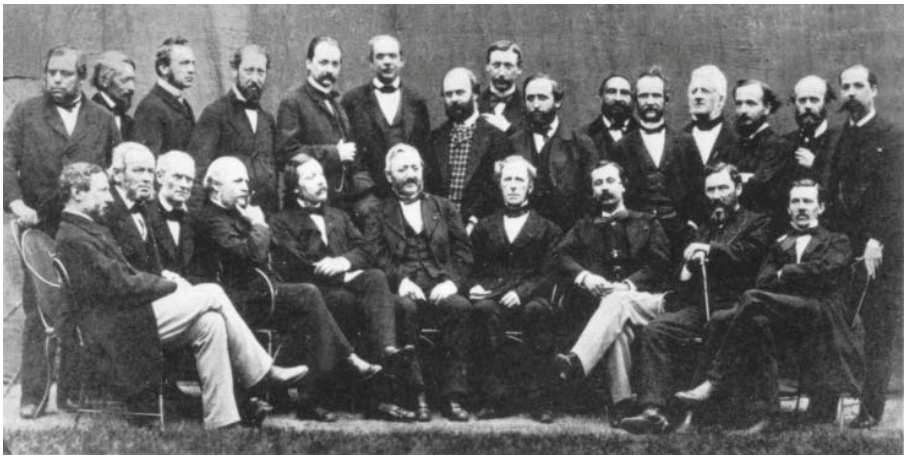
The ITU has always remained faithful to its goal of connecting all people in the world – irrespective of where they live or how rich they are. Since participating in UN technical aid projects in the 1950s, the ITU has developed numerous initiatives and programmes for bridging the digital gap.

In 1934 it changed its name to the International Telecommunication Union in order to better reflect the ever-increasing scope of its responsibilities. In 1949 it became a specialized agency of the United Nations for information and communication technologies. Over the years it has expanded greatly: today its membership includes 193 countries as well as over 700 private companies and academic institutions.

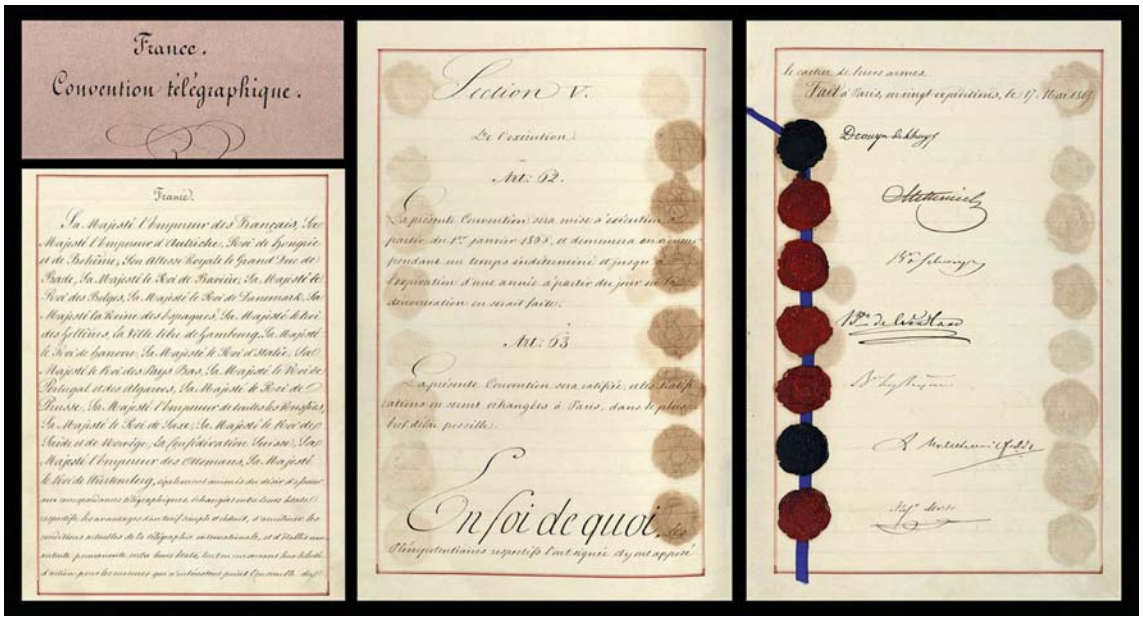
In all spheres of life, the world is becoming more and more dependent on telecommunications technologies. The ITU is making an increasingly important contribution to driving forward the smooth integration, expansion and shared use of new technologies. The ITU will continue in future to optimally align its key priorities and the resources at its disposal in order to be in a position to respond to the rapid changes in the global environment – just as it has been doing already for the past 150 years.

International Telecommunication Union

Delegates attending the first International Telegraph Conference in Paris, 1865. Photo: ITU



Important links:
ITU website: **itu.int**
150th anniversary of the ITU: **itu150.org**
History of ITU Portal: **itu.int/history**



Pages from the first International Telegraph Convention signed in 1865 in Paris. Photo: ITU

Postal card **150th anniversary of the International Telecommunication Union in Geneva (ITU)**

Sales
Philately: From 16.5.2015 to 30.6.2016, while stocks last
Post offices: Not available

Validity
Unlimited from 16.5.2015

Printing
Offset printing

Sizes
Card: 148×105 mm
Stamps: 33×28 mm

Paper
White offset board, 235 gm²

Design
Marco Trüeb, Basel

First-day cancellation

Regular airmail
Registered first day cover 1.12.1953 from Berne to Kabul (Afghanistan). First-day cancellation Berne 1.12.1953. Arrival postmark Kabul 12.12.1953.

Documents source: Archiv Berger

Zeppelin mail
National Day postcard 40 centimes 1929 from Berne to Guines (Cuba). Postmarked Berne 1 letter mail 31 July 1929. Postmarked Friedrichshafen 31.7.1929. Special Zeppelin confirmation cancellation 1st America flight 1929. Transit mark New York 5.8.1929. Arrival mark Guines (Cuba) 8.8.1929.

Crash mail
Postcard dated 17.12.1942, intended for Budapest. Machine-cancelled Berne 17.12.1942. Round, black cancellation with "KOX" and two-line blue cachet "Durch Flugzeugunfall beschädigt" (damaged in air accident). The scheduled Lufthansa flight on the Berlin-Prague-Vienna-Budapest route did not reach its destination. Site of accident unknown. Amazingly, the mail bag was found!

It has to be **grounded in reality**

Aerophilatelic items must have "genuinely flown". This means they must also have actually "landed" after they have been posted. … Although that may sound rather macabre to the layman, for collectors it is an absolute must. An airmail letter must have a starting point and a landing point.

Aerophilately is a branch of philately that specializes in the collection of items that have been transported by airmail. These include all documents relating to transport by airmail services – i.e. postcards, letters, parcel wrappers, letters accompanying freight consignments and freight documents, as well as the associated postage stamps.

Not long after the invention of the aeroplane at the beginning of the 20th century, people had already begun to use planes for transporting mail. The earliest scheduled flights were usually mail planes. Among other things, aerophilatelists are interested in postal items and airmail stamps from the early years, although there are also numerous more recent aerophilatelic specialisms. These include astrophilately (postal items relating to space travel). Typical items collected by aerophilatelists are airmail stamps, airmail vignettes, airmail documents (letters, postcards, documents from special or inaugural flights) and "crash mail" from interrupted flights, for example.

The most important subcategories of aerophilately include Zeppelin mail, catapult mail (small aircraft containing mail were catapulted off ships, e.g. in the middle of the North Atlantic or South Atlantic), balloon mail and DO-X mail (the large flying boat built by Dornier).

Postal card

Aerophilately Days 2015 Fehraltorf

Sales
Philately: From 30.4.2015 to 30.6.2016, while stocks last
Post offices: Not available

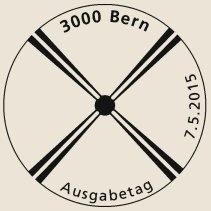
Validity
Unlimited from 7.5.2015

Printing
Offset printing

Sizes
Card: 148×105 mm
Stamps: 33×28 mm

Paper
White offset board, 235 gm²

Design
Martine Dietrich, Berne



First-day cancellation

49th Aerophilately Days

The Swiss Aerophilatelic Society (SAV) is hosting the 49th Aerophilately Days on 16 and 17 May 2015 in Fehraltorf near Zurich. This event has been run without interruption since 1967, with all language regions of Switzerland being visited several times over the years. The SAV is a national Swiss society which was founded in 1925. The Aerophilately Days 2015 will take place in the Heiget-Huus in the town of Fehraltorf. The traditional special postal flights will be flown from the Speck airfield just south of Fehraltorf. Helicopter flights will be offered from this airfield to the nearby Hasenstrick airfield and back. Special envelopes and postal cards from Swiss Post will be flown. These can be purchased from the special post office in the Heiget-Huus. The Heiget-Huus will also stage a stamp exhibition focusing on aerophilately, as well as a stamp collecting fair with around 10 dealers. The Heiget-Huus can be reached in just a few minutes on foot from the Fehraltorf railway station. There is ample parking in front of the house. An event for all the family. Entrance is free.

Logically enough, these 49th Aerophilately Days will be followed by the 50th ones! In conjunction with the Swiss Museum of Transport in Lucerne, SAV will be marking these with a major event from 7 to 18 October 2016 to be held in the museum's Aviation Hall.

Heinz Berger
President of Swiss Aerophilatelic Society SAV

Further information:
sav-aerophilatelie.ch

49th Aerophilately Days

The 49th Aerophilately Days will take place on 16 and 17 May 2015 in the Heiget-Huus in Fehraltorf near Zurich.

- Exhibition of airmail collections
- Dealers' fair with around ten participants at 20 tables
- Special post office open on both days from 9.30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Fredy Trümpi, designer of the Tiger F-5 stamp, will be autographing covers
- Tables run by the Swiss Aerophilatelic Society (SAV) and the SWISSAIR Philatelists Club (PCS), sale of recent airmail items
- Special mail flights in helicopters on Saturday morning (16th) from the Speck airfield to the nearby Hasenstrick airfield (post office 8635 Dürnten)
- Sale of SAV airmail catalogue, 2013 and 2000 editions. The 2000 edition of the airmail catalogue will be handed out to children for a nominal charge of CHF 10 (while stocks last)
- Children's corner and competition

FRED&FUN

Village museums

There are around 400 local and regional museums in Switzerland. They all collect things that people used in former times. The objects on the stamps come from museums in the cantons of Appenzell Innerrhoden, Berne, Thurgau and Vaud.
Pro Patria supports village museums with a surcharge printed on the stamps.
The new stamps feature four items. This concludes the series of 12 stamps on the subject of museums.

The stamps from 2013 and 2014

Tobacco pouch

Brooch for fastening clothes before the invention of buttons and zips

Wooden containers, as used in former times for the grape harvest

Butter board

www.propatria.ch

A bit of Stamp history

Stamps are miniature works of art. There used to be a job dedicated to making them. The stamp engraver's task was to design stamps and create delicate templates for printing using special tools. Karl Bickel is an outstanding stamp engraver in the history of Swiss stamps. He created over 500 designs, of which 100 were printed.
He also converted the landscape pictures from the last issue of "Focus on stamps" for reprinting in 1936 using the delicate recess printing method.

There is a museum dedicated to Karl Bickel in Walenstadt: www.museumbickel.ch.

Rhine Falls stamp in letterpress print from 1934

Recess printing by Karl Bickel from 1936

Fred at the museum

200 Years in the Confederation

Exactly 200 years ago the last three cantons, Valais, Geneva and Neuchâtel, joined the Swiss Confederation. Since then Switzerland's borders have not changed. You can find out more about these three cantons in the FRED&FUN collection booklet.

Word search

Switzerland consists of 26 cantons. There are 20 cantons hidden in the grid. Can you find them?

G	J	L	P	B	B	S	Y	F	A	T	R	U	G	G	O	X	E	I	O
S	B	G	U	N	U	Y	G	A	N	W	N	B	S	F	X	O	G	A	P
O	Q	D	C	U	A	H	S	F	Z	C	D	E	F	U	S	P	G	D	T
L	J	U	R	A	P	A	C	Y	E	G	K	B	G	N	C	O	N	Q	N
O	T	W	W	G	D	B	H	R	R	Z	A	J	O	P	H	Q	I	Y	G
T	I	C	S	F	T	R	W	C	N	G	U	E	B	U	A	M	D	V	E
H	C	F	O	O	P	P	Y	L	Z	I	Y	X	W	R	F	S	W	V	N
U	I	V	S	J	Q	P	Z	O	S	V	N	G	A	I	F	A	A	I	E
R	N	V	E	R	G	W	B	B	T	A	T	L	L	U	H	V	L	G	V
N	O	O	K	K	V	M	P	O	Q	U	H	A	D	F	A	A	D	M	A
Z	U	R	I	C	H	E	C	T	A	D	U	R	E	R	U	A	E	Y	P
B	A	S	E	L	L	A	N	D	O	O	R	U	N	I	S	R	N	F	N
X	I	A	J	T	H	O	P	S	C	D	G	S	C	B	E	G	D	K	O
A	B	T	R	N	O	D	O	L	M	G	A	Z	L	O	N	A	T	Z	R
V	C	Z	L	Y	M	M	T	U	M	F	U	E	E	U	P	U	B	U	Z
K	C	A	K	O	U	U	N	C	A	M	N	I	S	R	C	C	E	G	I
L	F	G	E	F	O	J	B	E	P	W	R	Q	Q	G	Y	D	R	A	S
I	B	K	Q	Q	C	Q	R	R	J	X	U	J	G	F	B	C	N	L	L
T	V	A	L	A	I	S	E	N	R	N	X	J	G	L	W	P	E	O	R
K	C	X	Y	K	W	T	S	E	U	N	J	Z	B	K	S	Z	R	V	P

For experts

Which six cantons are missing from the grid?

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.

Quiz

Many cantonal capitals have the same name as their cantons, but not all of them do. What are the capitals of the following cantons? When you read the first letters in order, you will see a word.

Ticino

Aargau

Vaud

Basellandschaft

Uri

Jura

Solution word:

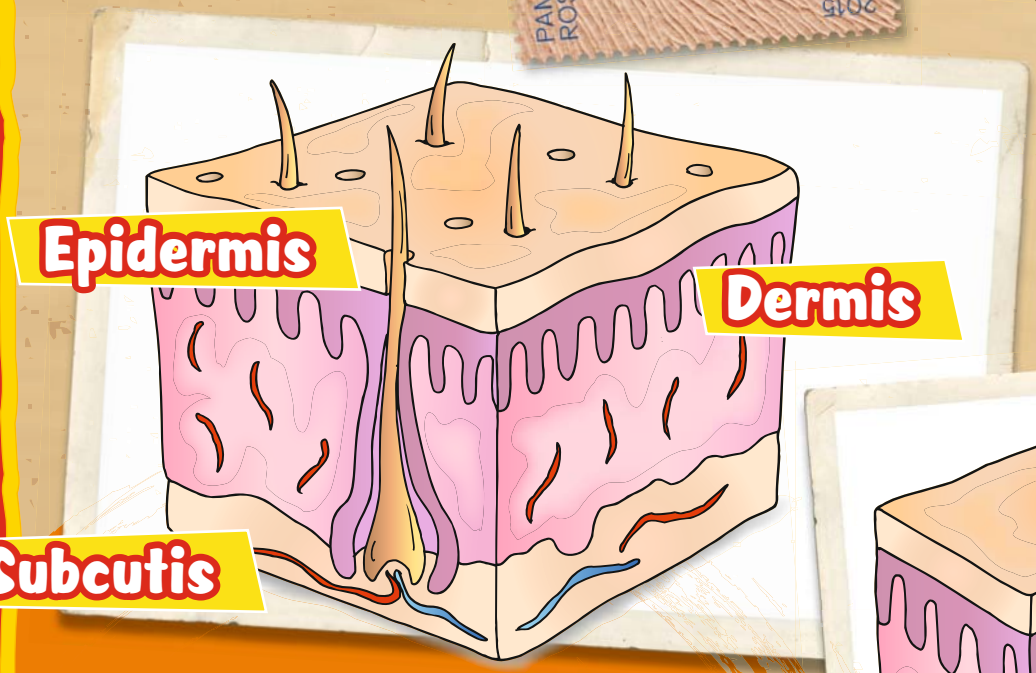
You will find the solutions on the last page.

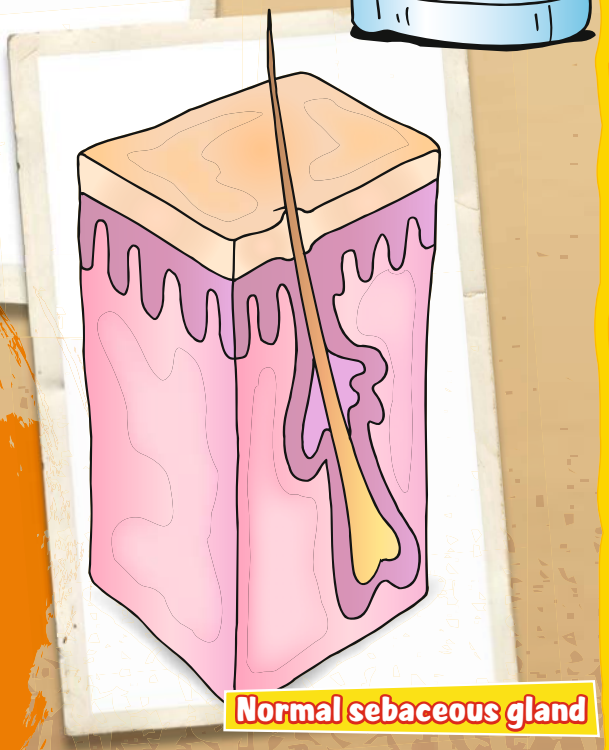
ART SERIES

LA BIENNALE DI VENEZIA

Artist Pamela Rosenkranz has designed a stamp to mark the Venice Biennale, a major international art exhibition. The stamp shows an area of skin, but not just as a photograph. The entire surface of the stamp has the structure of skin.

The skin is the largest organ in the human body. It has an area of two square metres and weighs 15% of our body weight, more than the heart (300 g) or lungs (1.3 kg). The skin is our direct barrier to the world around us and protects us from environmental influences.





The part of the skin that is visible is called the epidermis. It is just a fraction of a millimetre thick and has the form of a relief. We have small grooves on our hands and feet that differ from one person to the next. That's why your fingerprints are completely personal to you. On the rest of our body, the epidermis is divided into small fields. Below the epidermis are the dermis and the subcutis.

The epidermis has pores and hairs. Pores are very small openings through which sweat moves from the glands to the surface. The hairs are not connected to the pores, but are spread out between them.

OFFER

Collection booklet

Four times a year, many new stamps come out on around 20 topics. The most interesting subjects for children are explained and illustrated in the FRED&FUN collection booklet.
It is available while stocks last from postshop.ch (enter "Collection booklet" in the Search field) or by phone on: +41 (0)848 66 55 44.

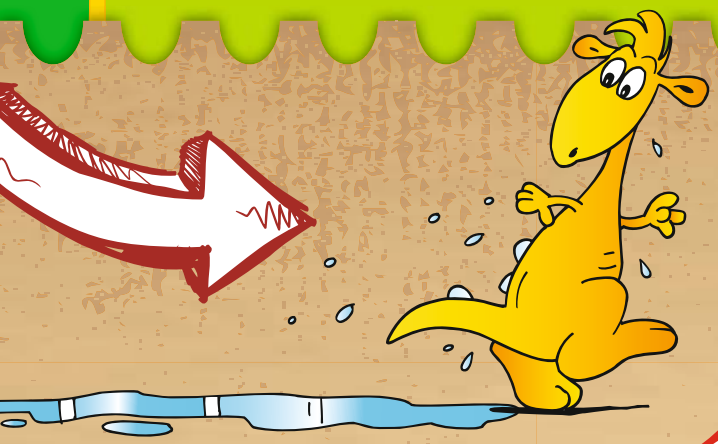
How to obtain them
Each "Focus on stamps" stamp magazine comes with an order form. Your parents can use it to order the collection booklet and stamps. Alternatively they can phone +41 (0)848 66 55 44. Or you can go to a philatelic salespoint in the Post offices in 4002 Basel, 3008 Berne, 1000 Lausanne, 6900 Lugano, 9001 St. Gallen or 8022 Zurich.

If you have any questions or would like to get in touch with Fred, send an e-mail to: fred@post.ch

Solutions on page 2

For experts:
Appenzell Innerrhoden
Appenzell Ausserrhoden
Basel-Stadt
Graubünden
Neuchâtel
St. Gallen

Solution word = Ballad



Goose pimples Goose bumps Goose flesh

Goose bumps appear when the small hairs and raised areas on the skin stand up. The reason for this is still not totally clear today. But the phrase itself is funny: in some languages it resembles a chicken, in others a goose, depending on the region and country! What do you say in your language?

Why do we sweat?

Without noticing, every day we lose 500 ml of sweat through our pores. When we do something strenuous, we can see the sweat. Sweating cools down the body.

The newest stamp products

Order using the enclosed order form or at postshop.ch

Bicentenary of Geneva, Neuchâtel and Valais joining the Swiss Confederation

CHF 1.00 Geneva
CHF 1.00 Neuchâtel
CHF 1.00 Valais

Special stamps
White stamp paper, mat gummed

First day of issue 7.5.2015

Set
A035 150 ★
A035 550 ⊙ *CHF 3.00*

Set of blocks of four
A035 160 ★
A035 560 ⊙ *CHF 12.00*

Sheetlet of 6 stamps
Geneva
A035 311 ★
A035 351 ⊙ *CHF 6.00*

Sheetlet of 6 stamps
Neuchâtel
A035 312 ★
A035 352 ⊙ *CHF 6.00*

Sheetlet of 6 stamps
Valais
A035 313 ★
A035 353 ⊙ *CHF 6.00*

Set on first day cover C6
A035 580 ⊙ only *CHF 3.90*

Single stamp on first day cover C6
(3 covers)
A035 600 ⊙ only *CHF 5.70*

Block of four on first day cover C6
(3 covers)
A035 630 ⊙ only *CHF 14.70*

Sheetlet on first day cover C5
Geneva
A035 591 ⊙ only *CHF 7.20*

Sheetlet on first day cover C5
Neuchâtel
A035 592 ⊙ only *CHF 7.20*

Sheetlet on first day cover C5
Valais
A035 593 ⊙ only *CHF 7.20*

Set with one sheetlet each on first day cover C5
Geneva, Neuchâtel and Valais (3 covers)
A035 590 ⊙ only
CHF 21.60

Unstamped covers

C6 (162×114 mm)
A035 700
CHF 0.90

C5 (229×162 mm)
A035 701
CHF 1.20

Folder / collection sheet
A035 640 ★
A035 650 ⊙ *CHF 3.80*

75th anniversary of Swiss Sponsorship for Mountain Communities

CHF 1.00

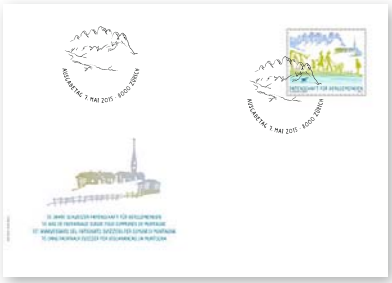
Special stamp
White stamp paper, mat gummed

First day of issue 7.5.2015

Single stamp
A036 150 ★
A036 550 ⊙
CHF 1.00

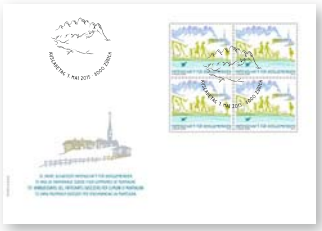
Block of four
A036 160 ★
A036 560 ⊙
CHF 4.00

Sheet of 20 stamps
A036 111 ★
A036 511 ⊙
CHF 20.00



Single stamp on first day cover C6
A036 580 ⊙ only *CHF 1.90*

Unstamped cover C6
A036 700
CHF 0.90



Block of four on first day cover C6
A036 630 ⊙ only *CHF 4.90*

Folder / collection sheet
A036 640 ★
A036 650 ⊙ *CHF 1.80*

Key ★ = mint ⊙ = cancelled

56th International Art Exhibition – la Biennale di Venezia

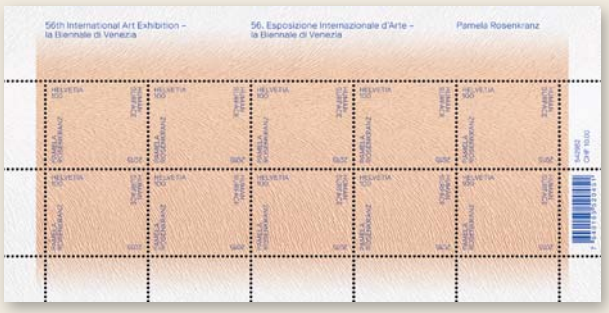
CHF 1.00

Special stamp
White stamp paper, mat gummed

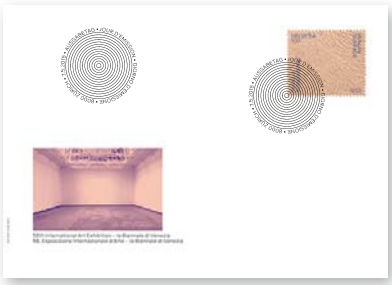
First day of issue 7.5.2015

Single stamp
A037 150 ★
A037 550 ⊙
CHF 1.00

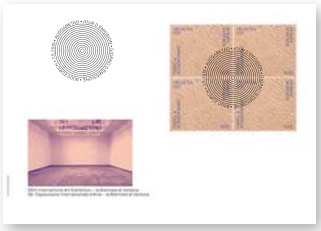
Block of four
A037 160 ★
A037 560 ⊙
CHF 4.00


56th International Art Exhibition – la Biennale di Venezia
56. Esposizione Internazionale d'Arte – la Biennale di Venezia
Pamela Rosenkranz

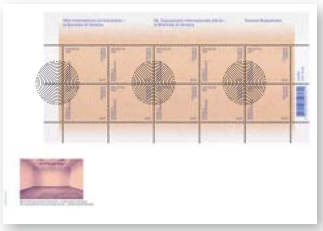
Sheetlet of 10 stamps
A037 311 ★
A037 351 ⊙ *CHF 10.00*



Single stamp on first day cover C6
A037 580 ⊙ only *CHF 1.90*



Block of four on first day cover C6
A037 630 ⊙ only *CHF 4.90*



Sheetlet on first day cover C5
A037 590 ⊙ only *CHF 11.20*

Unstamped covers

C6 (162×114 mm)
A037 700
CHF 0.90

C5 (229×162 mm)
A037 701
CHF 1.20

Folder / collection sheet
A037 640 ★
A037 650 ⊙ *CHF 1.80*

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Pro Patria – Village museums

CHF 1.25 (0.85+0.40) **Aigle VD**
CHF 1.25 (0.85+0.40) **Appenzell AI**
CHF 1.50 (1.00+0.50) **Saanen BE**
CHF 1.50 (1.00+0.50) **Steckborn TG**

Special stamps with surcharge
White stamp paper, mat gummed

First day of issue 7.5.2015

Set
A038 150 ★
A038 550 ⊙ *CHF 5.50*

Set of blocks of four
A038 160 ★
A038 560 ⊙ *CHF 22.00*

Sheet of 20 stamps

0.85+0.40 Aigle VD
A038 111 ★
A038 511 ⊙
CHF 25.00

0.85+0.40 Appenzell AI
A038 112 ★
A038 512 ⊙
CHF 25.00

1.00+0.50 Saanen BE
A038 113 ★
A038 513 ⊙
CHF 30.00

1.00+0.50 Steckborn TG
A038 114 ★
A038 514 ⊙
CHF 30.00

Set on first day cover C6
A038 580 ⊙ only *CHF 6.40*

Single stamp on first day cover C6
(4 covers)
A038 600 ⊙ only *CHF 9.10*

Block of four on first day cover C6
(4 covers)
A038 630 ⊙ only *CHF 25.60*

Unstamped cover C6
A038 700
CHF 0.90

Folder / collection sheet
A038 640 ★
A038 650 ⊙ *CHF 6.30*

Stamp booklet
6 stamps (CHF 0.85+0.40) with the motif "Aigle VD" and
4 stamps (CHF 1.00+0.50) with the motif "Steckborn TG" plus
CHF 1.00 for the production of the stamp booklet
A038 300 ★
A038 800 ⊙ only *CHF 14.50*

Key ★ = mint ⊙ = cancelled

Europa – Old toys

CHF 1.00 Rocking duck
CHF 1.00 Tricycle

Special stamps
White stamp paper, mat gummed

First day of issue 7.5.2015

Set
A039 150 ★
A039 550 ⊙ *CHF 2.00*

Block of four
A039 160 ★
A039 560 ⊙ *CHF 4.00*

Sheet of 16 stamps*
A039 111 ★
A039 511 ⊙
CHF 16.00

Set on first day cover C6
A039 580 ⊙ only *CHF 2.90*

Single stamp on first day cover C6
(2 covers)
A039 600 ⊙ only *CHF 3.80*

Block of four on first day cover C6
A039 630 ⊙ only *CHF 4.90*

Folder / collection sheet
A039 640 ★
A039 650 ⊙ *CHF 2.80*

Unstamped cover C6
A039 700
CHF 0.90

* The sheet comprises 8 stamps with the motifs "Rocking duck" and "Tricycle"; not available separately.

Expo Milano 2015 – Swiss cuisine

Book

First day of issue 7.5.2015

Culinary highlights and recipes from seven regions in Switzerland including a sheetlet with six original "Expo Milano 2015" stamps (1/2015 issue dated 5.3.2015). A5 landscape, hardcover, 100 pages, 4 languages (It, Ge, Fr, En).
A028 835 ★ only *CHF 19.00*

The book is not delivered as part of a standing order.

2015 stamp catalogues

Zumstein Switzerland/ Liechtenstein/ UN Geneva
German/French
1998 725
CHF 35.00

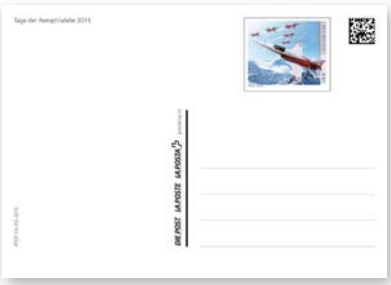
Swiss Stamp Dealers Association Switzerland/Liechtenstein/UN Geneva
German/French
1998 787
CHF 37.00

The stamp catalogues will be delivered in Switzerland and Liechtenstein only.

Aerophilately Days 2015 Fehraltorf

Postal stationery

First day of issue 7.5.2015



Postal card "Aerophilately Days 2015 Fehraltorf", face value CHF 1.00 + 1.00 for the card
A070 841 ★
A070 846 ⊙ *CHF 2.00*

150th anniversary of the International Telecommunication Union in Geneva (ITU)

Postal stationery

First day of issue 16.5.2015

Postal card "150th anniversary of the International Telecommunication Union in Geneva (ITU)", face value CHF 1.90 + 1.00 for the card
A040 841 ★
A040 846 ⊙ *CHF 2.90*

FRED & FUN

2015 collection booklet
(see page 29)
English
1917 904
Free of charge

Annual and special products

Set of single stamps, 2/2015 edition
The single stamps/sets in the 2/2015 issue of 7.5.2015 are displayed on a free A5 backing card with a protective cellophane wrapping.
A033 150 ★
A033 550 ⊙
CHF 12.50

Set of first day covers, 2/2015 edition
The first day covers with the set in the 2/2015 issue of 7.5.2015 are combined in one free cover.
A033 580 ⊙ only
CHF 17.00

2014 year book of Swiss stamps
A008 830 ★
A008 831 ⊙ *CHF 66.00*

2014 year set
A009 320 ★
A009 820 ⊙
CHF 58.45

2014 year set of first day covers
A010 530 ⊙ only
CHF 80.25

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